

Appl. No. 09/664,294

PATENT

Amdt. dated December 17, 2003

Reply to Office Action of September 17, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**Amendments**

The claims are modified in the amendment. Claims 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, and 20 have been amended; no claims have been cancelled; and no new claims have been added. Therefore, claims 1-20 are present for examination. No new matter is added by these amendments. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection, Tripp et al.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-20 as being anticipated by Tripp et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,516,337) under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). To maintain a valid anticipation rejection of the amended claims, the Office personnel must show that each and every limitation from the claims appears in a single piece of prior art. Applicants believe major limitations from amended claims 1, 8 and 15 are neither taught nor suggested in the cited portions of the Tripp et al. reference (hereinafter "Tripp"). More specifically, Tripp cannot be relied on to teach or suggest removal of a local catalog from a global catalog if a site fails to autonomously respond before a timer expires, as generally required by the amended claims. Applicant's respectfully request that the anticipation rejection be withdrawn for these reasons.

Tripp teaches creation of a brochure file 206 that is harvested by a brochure check server 228 using a spider process if the web site is not served by an agent 204. See Tripp, col. 10, lines 5-23. It is noted that a brochure file 206 does not include location information for the content on the web site. *Id.*, Tables 1 and 2. The brochure check server 228 periodically requests brochure files 206 and notifies the site administrator if it is missing. *Id.*, col. 9, line 64 to col. 10, line 11. Only where this brochure check server 228 has completed a number of check cycles to confirm that the brochure file 206 is still missing will the brochure database server 226 update the brochure database. *Id.*, col. 10, lines 11-15. Tripp only contemplates missing brochure files and not the narrower situation where the web site is down or unavailable. It is not clear what Tripp would do if the web site is unavailable or down.

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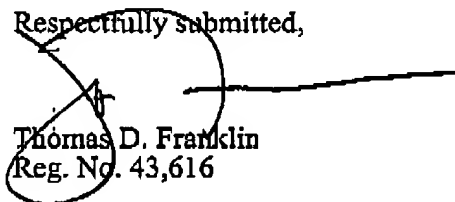
In one embodiment, the claimed invention addresses the situation where the web site is down or unavailable, and does so without requiring a spider process to collect information from many web sites. Web sites report their local catalog of location information to a global catalog in an autonomous manner, i.e., they initiate the reporting without requiring a central brochure check server 226 to make requests like in Tripp. Where the local catalog is not received by the global catalog before a timer expires, it is presumed that the web site is down or unavailable. The expired timer causes removal of the local catalog from the global catalog. By not having a brochure check server 226 running a spider process to gather information, the claimed invention has considerable advantages when compared to Tripp. For at least this reason, reconsideration of the rejection as applied to the amended claims is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is urged. Reconsideration of the claims in their current form is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,


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